

ONDA Connectivity expands third-party equipment integration for motorhomes and caravans

AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics enables easier control of heating, cooling, energy and utility systems through one interface.

A single intuitive, easy-to-use interface operates both the vehicle's digital control panel and the ONDA Connectivity mobile app for convenient operation onboard or on the go. This gives comprehensive information about a range of vehicle functions, and convenient control over utilities:

- Lighting control
- Interior temperature control
- Battery state of charge
- Solar panel charging status
- Vehicle levelling position
- Fresh water level monitoring
- Precise vehicle location via GPS

Compatible with third-party equipment

A key benefit of the ONDA Connectivity platform is the possibility to integrate new products from AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics and other manufacturers. This brings a wider choice to customers, whether defining a vehicle's initial specifications or upgrading equipment later.

The ICL-12 gateway acts as the communication bridge between ONDA Connectivity platform and compatible appliances, supporting protocols including LIN-BUS, CI-BUS and CAN-BUS. An appliance's full range of functionality can then be controlled at the push of a button via the ONDA Connectivity interface, on the vehicle's control panel or via the mobile app.

An ever-expanding ecosystem via CI-BUS

Integration of the CI-BUS protocol has allowed AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics to rapidly expand the ecosystem of compatible appliances.

Integration of CI-BUS means that the most popular brands of heating and air conditioning systems, refrigerators, batteries and inverters can easily

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AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics (VTE), the European leader in electrical and electronic systems for caravanning applications, was born from the merger of CBE and Nordelettronica.

The AL-KO Vehicle Technology Group is a swiftly growing global technology group and a business unit of DexKo Global. With high-quality chassis and suspension components for trailers, leisure and commercial vehicles, construction and agricultural vehicles, the group represents the best in functionality and comfort as well as innovations to ensure greater driving safety. Founded in 1931 the group today has around 3,000 employees at more than 40 locations worldwide. Find out more at www.alko-tech.com

DexKo Global Inc. is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-quality chassis technology, chassis assemblies, accessories and hydraulic brake components. DexKo Global was founded in 2016 through the merger of Dexter and AL-KO Vehicle Technology. Headquartered in Novi, Michigan/USA, the company employs around 6,000 people in more than 100 production facilities and distribution centers. For more information, please go to www.dexko.com

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be integrated into the ONDA Connectivity supervision system. AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics is continuously expanding the list of compatible equipment, based on its validated compatibility tests and approval from the respective manufacturers. The following brands are currently integrated into the ONDA Connectivity system:

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- Heating & air conditioning: **Webasto, Dometic, Truma, Alde**
- Batteries: **Mastervolt, Super B, Varta, Dometic, Hella, ten Haaft**
- Refrigerators: **Dometic, Indel B**
- Inverters: **ten Haaft**
- Lighting & dimming: **Toptron**
- Gas sensors: **E-Trailer**

CI-BUS is an industry standard developed in 2011 for the motorhome and caravanning industry. It was created via the CIVD, the German association of recreational vehicle manufacturers and suppliers (Caravanning Industrie Verband e.V.). More than 60 manufacturers and equipment suppliers have signed up to CI-BUS, with many thousands of appliances and vehicles using the protocol for onboard digital control systems.

“We are working directly with leading equipment manufacturers to make ONDA Connectivity compatible with an increasingly broad range of appliances” says Michele Menegazzi, R&D Manager at AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics. “This gives OEMs, dealers and end users more flexibility while keeping control simple and intuitive.”

Easy installation

Integrating new third-party equipment into an existing ONDA Connectivity environment in a recreational vehicle is quick and easy. Manufacturers or dealers can trigger a firmware update via a USB stick. Minor adjustments to the wiring assembly may also be required to rapidly integrate a compatible new appliance.

Full control in the palm of your hand

The ONDA Connectivity mobile app is the intuitive, easy-to-use interface for managing all aspects of a recreational vehicle’s onboard equipment from anywhere. It enables communication with smartphones and tablets, either locally via Bluetooth or remotely via the internet.

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The simple one-screen layout – which is mirrored on the vehicle’s onboard control panel – shows all the important information clearly and enables instant adjustments at the push of a button.

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The ONDA Connectivity app is available on the Apple Store and Google Play and includes an interactive DEMO mode, to give everyone a taste of what ONDA can do. Experience the ONDA Connectivity app [by clicking here.](#)

Benefits of ONDA Connectivity

ONDA Connectivity delivers energy management and digital control, bringing the latest in connected technology to motorhomes and caravans.

Functionality goes beyond the peace of mind which comes from checking that battery and water levels are appropriate when out and about. Users can heat or cool their vehicle before arrival to ensure comfort upon arrival, adjust the fridge temperature to prepare the perfect evening aperitif, prepare hot water for a relaxing shower, or even locate the vehicle in an unfamiliar campsite. Whatever the need, ONDA Connectivity enables access to a vehicle’s onboard systems from near or far.

“ONDA Connectivity takes your vehicle to the next level and puts you in control of your motorhome, wherever you are” says Lucas Bortolotto, ONDA Connectivity Sales & Product Manager at AL-KO Vehicle Technology Electronics.

Making a motorhome future-ready

ONDA Connectivity is designed not only to support today’s connected technologies, but also to prepare vehicles for the next generation of digital products and services.

Lucas Bortolotto adds: “We are continuously looking at new ways to enhance ONDA Connectivity, from voice control to the potential role of AI in supporting safety, convenience and the overall user experience.”